

Amendments to the Specification

Before paragraph [0001], please add the following new text:

CROSS-REFERENCE

This application is the US national stage filing of International Application No. PCT/DE2004/002087 filed September 17, 2004, which claims priority to German patent application no. 103 45 296.6 filed September 30, 2003.

TECHNICAL FIELD

Please add the following new section heading after paragraph [0001]:

BACKGROUND ART

Please add the following new section heading after paragraph [0006]:

SUMMARY

Please replace paragraphs [0010]-[0012] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0010] In a preferred aspect of the present teachings, the guide device may include at least one guide element, preferably a roller, that is supported on the convertible top compartment lid or the vehicle body and arrives in engagement with a guide path provided on the roof part when moving the roof part from the closed position into the opened position so that the roller moves along the guide path in contact therewith. By constructing the guide element according to claim 2 in this manner, it is possible to achieve realize the contact between roof part and guide device without significant additional frictional force, so that scarcely any increased drive power is hardly required for opening and closing the vehicle roof as compared to a construction that ~~forgoes~~ does not include the guide element.

[0011] In another preferred aspect of the present teachings, the guide path may be formed or provided by an ornamental strip mounted or defined on the surface of the roof part. In this case, By the features of claim 5, the guide path, which is affixed on the roof part and with which guide path the guide device in the form of one or more rollers comes into engagement, can also be shaped in a visually-appealing manner.

[0012] In accordance with the other preferred features of claim 3, 4, 6 and 7 disclosed below, especially well-defined guide paths can be achieved, in particular in view of the movement path of the roof part and the multiple directional changes provided for the movement path.

Please add the following new section heading after paragraph [0014]:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following new section heading after paragraph [0035]:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0049] with the following amended paragraph:

After the connecting rod 31 has arrived in the horizontal position, i.e. in its maximal pivoted position, in which due to the influence of the guide roller 40 against the biasing force of the pneumatic spring, the connecting rod 31 and the connecting rod 34 assume the angle α_2 with respect to each other, a drive for the carriage 32 is subsequently activated, which drive can likewise be formed as an electronic drive, a hydraulic drive or another drive as necessary, and the carriage 32 is moved, so that it moves along the path 33 in the direction towards the vehicle rear end. Thus, the guide roller 40 remains in contact with the guide path 44 of the movable roof part 12. This means that the movable roof part, in particular the middle roof part 22 having the side roof parts 24 folded thereon, continues to undergo a pivoting movement about the rotational point between the connecting rod 31 and the connecting rod 34 due to the roller 40, so that the angle α is further reduced against the force of the pneumatic spring 35. As can be seen in Fig. 15_12, during this pivoting movement, the roller 42 of the roller pair is initially does not contact ~~still not in contact with~~ the guide path 44.